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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/921,031	08/02/2001	Charles B. Mattas	US010315 (7790/40)	7829
24737	7590	10/22/2003	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS P.O. BOX 3001 BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			VU, DAVID HUNG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2821	

DATE MAILED: 10/22/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application N .

09/921,031

Applicant(s)

MATTAS ET AL. 

Examiner

David Vu

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 August 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 37-56 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 51-56 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 37-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 41-50 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

Art Unit: 2821

Part III DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any other errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification, drawings, and claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 37 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Daub, U.S. Pat. No. 5,103,143.

Daub discloses the claimed invention including voltage sensor U for determining a voltage across lamp GDL; current sensor I for determining a current through the lamp;

Art Unit: 2821

both sensors are in electrical communication with the control circuit; and a control circuit including at least comparator V, actual-power-value determining device LI for approximating a lamp power as a function of first and second sensing voltage, comparing the approximated lamp power against a reference voltage, and regulating the power to the lamp based on the comparison, see, for example, figure 1, column 3, lines 1-35, column 4, lines 33+, column 5, lines 1-21.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 38-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Daub in view of Bertniz et al U.S. Pat. No. 5,198,728.

Art Unit: 2821

Daub as discussed from the above, essentially discloses the claimed invention but fails to explicitly disclose the voltage sensor includes a voltage divider. Bertniz et al disclose voltage divider R3,R2 (figure 2). An obvious modification would have provided the Daub reference with the voltage divider as taught by Bertniz et al. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's claimed invention was made to have provided the Daub reference with the voltage divider as it would have provided the lamp circuit with means for generating a first sensing voltage to the control circuit. Bertniz et al also disclose resistor R1. Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of applicant's claimed invention was made to have provided the Daub reference with resistor R as it would have provided the lamp circuit with means for generating a second sensing voltage to the control circuit.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 41-50 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in

Art Unit: 2821

independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. claims 51-56 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 37-56 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the

Art Unit: 2821

THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David Vu whose telephone number is (703) 305-6077.

11. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

12. Papers related to Technology Center 2800 applications **only** may be submitted to Technology Center 2800 by facsimile transmission. Any transmission not to be considered an official response must be clearly marked "DRAFT". The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November 15, 1989).

Serial Number:09/921031

Page 7

Art Unit: 2821

The Technology Center Fax Center number is (703) 308-7722 or
(703) 308-7724.

dv

October 19, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Vu', with a stylized, flowing script.

DAVID VU
PRIMARY EXAMINER